

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 20, and 21 are pending, with Claims 1, 3, and 5 being independent.

Claims 2, 4, and 6 through 19 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 3 and 5 have been amended.

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in granting and conducting on January 7, 8, and 12 of this year, interviews with Applicant's representative. During the interviews, Applicant's representative and the Examiner discussed proposed amendments to the claims including (a) cancellation without prejudice of the non-elected claims and (b) the amendment of Claims 3 and 5. Applicant understands that the Examiner is in agreement that the proposed amendments would place the application in condition for allowance, and the claims have been so amended. Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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